

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

Minutes of board meeting of 19 July 2007, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne.

Present: Niel Black, David Dinning, Graeme Charles, Tony O'Shea (Chairman) and David Griffiths (Secretary)
Absent: Dianne Batterham,

1. Minutes

That the minutes of the meeting of 23 May 2007 be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting. CARRIED

2. Co-operative Education

Graeme Charles reported on the status of the co-operative education initiatives:

1. Chris Cooper was workshopping the staff of Capricorn Society on 18 and 19 July 2007. Gross income to CFV would be \$13,500.
2. The CFNSW and CFV Co-operative Identity Workshop was proceeding on 21 July 2007 with about 20 participants from 8 co-operatives. Gross income to CFV would be \$6,000.
3. The Retail Co-operative Workshop would be on 15 – 16 November 2007. There was a steering committee with representatives from CFSA, CFNSW and CFV. Speakers would include Chris Cooper (Co-operative College), Russell Gilbert (Membership Manager, The Co-operative Group), the Monash University Centre of Retail Studies and Fightback. An additional possible speaker would be the CEO of the East of England Co-operative in the UK.

Graeme said he expected that there would be 40 participants with each paying a registration fee of \$400.

It was noted that the costings for the speakers had to be finalised, a budget prepared and a conference brochure circulated within weeks to determine whether or not there was sufficient interest for the workshop to proceed.

3. Audit Exemption

It was noted that there had been no response received as of 18 July 2007 to the letter of 4 July 2007 to Melanie Saba, Assistant Registrar of Co-operatives, seeking an exemption from audit for CFV.

Tony O'Shea said that he would follow-up Melanie Saba.

4. Co-operative Health

Graeme Charles reported that he and Diane batterham had discussed with the Victorian Department of Communities the possibility of funding a feasibility study for a health co-operative.

He also reported that he had met with Patrick Moriarty, of Our Community, to discuss co-operative health.

5. Co-operative Council of Australia

It was noted that the CCA teleconference would be on 24 July 2007 and that the agenda included progress of co-operative legislation, co-operative wheat, IAS, retail co-operative workshop, demutualisation and the ICA General Assembly.

6. australia.coop

It was noted that Google AdSense income was approximately US\$16 to date from 39 clicks since the ads had been added to australia.coop.

The Secretary tabled a list of articles published in australia.coop since 1 July 2007 and the results of all polls that had been published on the site.

It was noted that work was proceeding on the SEHC web site.

There was a brief discussion on the role and usefulness of australia.coop and different viewpoints were expressed. The discussion included the value and practicality of editorial control, the need to better source (quote attributions for) some articles and whether and to what extent the content was 'gossip-driven.'

7. IAS

There was a discussion on the IAS treatment of co-operative equity as debt and it was agreed that the issue should be further progressed with the CCA and CAV.

That the issue of changing the rules of a co-operative so that share capital would be treated as equity rather than debt under the IAS be examined further and expert advice sought so that co-operatives could be appropriately informed if this was legal and practical. CARRIED

8. Terang Co-operative

It was agreed that a letter would be forwarded to the new Terang Co-operative board offering membership and our services.

The Secretary will prepare a draft letter for further consideration by the Chairman and Niel.

9. Member Equality

There was a brief discussion on the need for co-operatives to treat all members equally.

The Secretary will draft a letter/statement and this will be circulated to directors for further consideration.

Graeme Charles will also circulate an article that was not published in The Devondaler.

11. Finance

It was noted that current funds in the bank were approximately \$8900.

12. Meetings

Next board meeting: 22 August 2007.

It was agreed that the date of the AGM should be changed from 15 November to 29 November 2007. The Secretary will contact the Urban Camp about the changed date.

Next Meeting: 10:30 am, 22 August 2007, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

Prepared by David Griffiths: 19 July 2007

Approved by Tony O'Shea: 23 July 2007

Emailed to directors: 23 July 2007

Snail mailed to directors: 24 July 2007

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2007 Schedule of Board and AGM meetings

Board

Start time: 10:30am

Venue: Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

15 March 2007

17 May 2007

19 July 2007

22 August 2007

29 November 2007

AGM

29 November 2007 – to be confirmed

Start time: 12:00 Midday

Venue: Urban Camp Melbourne Co-operative, Brens Drive, Parkville